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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS et al.

Atty. Ref.: **2551-69**

Serial No. **09/995,860**

Group: **1648**

Filed: **November 29, 2001**

Examiner:

For: **PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEINS
FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC USE**

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January 11, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminarily amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the specification as follows.

Insert the attached new page 40 for that which was originally filed.

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to include the deposit information indicated on the attached new page 40. A marked up copy of the amended page 40 showing the added paragraph, as underlined, is also attached.

The Office is requested to note that the present Amendment is not submitted in response to the Notice to File Missing Parts dated December 27, 2001. A response to that Notice will be filed under separate cover.